

Serial No. 09/917,822  
Docket No. YOR920010568US1  
(YOR.335)

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REMARKS

Claims 35-37, 40-44, and 57-85 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 39-44 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

To expedite the allowance of the present application, claim 35 is amended herewith to incorporate the allowable subject matter of allowable claim 39 and intervening claims 36 and 38, respectively, and therefore, claim 35 should be in condition for immediate allowance.

Claims 38 and 39 correspondingly are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, since all of the subject matter of these claims is incorporated into claim 35.

Claim 36 has been amended to remove features of this claim which have been incorporated into claim 35.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 35-37 should be in condition for immediate allowance, together with allowable claims 40-44, and respectfully request the same.

On the other hand, claim 37 and allowable claim 43 have been amended merely to make editorial amendments in conformance with U.S. Patent practice.

New claims 57-85 have been added to claim somewhat similar features as allowable claims 35-37 and 40-44 (but in terms of a system of communicating between a seating platform and a remote system, and a signal-bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform a method of communicating between a seating platform and a remote system), and to recite the subject matter of elected claims 1-3, 11, 15, and 17-22, but depending from allowable claim 35 (i.e., claims 1-3, 11, 15, and 17-22 have been canceled and the subject matter of these claims has been included in

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the newly added claims so that the dependent claims are numbered sequentially, for the Examiner's clarity and convenience.).

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 57-85 are in condition for immediate allowance at least for somewhat similar reasons as allowable claims 35-37 and 40-44.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicants specifically state that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claims 1-34, 38, 39, and 45-56 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the filing of divisional applications directed to the subject matter of these claims.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications for the non-elected inventions later.

Claims 1-3, 15, 17-22, 35 and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lloyd, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,080,106) in view of David, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,544,649). Claims 4 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lloyd in view of David, and further in view of Harris (U.S. Patent No. 5,113,176). Claims 37 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lloyd in view of David and further in view of Myllymaki (U.S. Patent No. 6,348,867).

As mentioned above, claim 35 is amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of allowable claim 39, and claims 1-34, 38, 39, and 45-56 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the above mentioned prior art rejections are moot, and accordingly, these rejections should be withdrawn.

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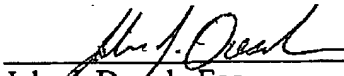
In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 35-37, 40-44, and 57-85, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for immediate allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully submitted,

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